



A Labour of Love

We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labour prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Thessalonians 1:3)



I write this having just had a long conversation with Simon about the work which continues at the Falconer Home. I am struck by the commitment and endurance demonstrated by Simon and his staff under the most challenging of circumstances. It is difficult for us to appreciate the hurdles which must be overcome in order to complete what would otherwise be relatively straightforward tasks. With mains electricity still a seemingly distant hope, maintaining generators which will provide power is proving immensely difficult. Until power problems are resolved, running water cannot be restored. Furthermore, the staff are working to

meet the requirements placed upon them by the authorities. These include the provision of toilets, beds and an environment which is safe.

The 'local' Post Office (in Kabompo, some 35 miles away!) has been out of action since February, so sending and receiving items of post requires using a Post Office in one of the main cities, Ndola, Lusaka, Kitwe or Solwezi. This has meant that the monthly parcels sent by our friends at Waterford House have not reached the Home for the last few months, and Simon is now trying to establish where they are.

Despite all of these challenges, many projects are progressing. Work continues on the kitchen renovations, with sinks currently being installed. The piggery is being re-built, so that these animals are not wandering loose among the children.

A verandah has been constructed to provide shelter from the sudden downpours during the rainy season, and to provide an area where washed clothes can be dried.

Despite all of the challenges, Simon reports that the children are doing well, and the rainy season did not cause too many health problems, as is so often the case.



The 2019 Visit

Plans are well under way for this year's visit to the Falconer Home. Ken and Pat will travel with their grandson Jonathan, along with Dennis and Neil.

Travel arrangements will be a little different this year, partly due to the fact that the airstrip at the Home will not be able to be used. The Zambian Civil Aviation Authority have ruled that all airstrips must be inspected annually, and this will place a huge financial burden on the Home, especially if the inspector decides that improvements must be made.

In the light of this, we have decided to fly to Ndola, then travel by car to the Home (approximately 450 miles). This will of course mean a much longer travelling time, but, on the positive side, it will mean that during our stay we will have a vehicle on hand when needed.

We will be looking forward to seeing progress on the many projects currently underway, particularly the kitchen renovation project, in which the kitchen in the main house is being upgraded. A second kitchen is also being built, so that different age-groups of children can be fed simultaneously. The outdoor kitchen, where the nshima is cooked, is also being rebuilt. Toilets have been installed in various buildings, and many other improvements are underway.

One of our tasks while at the Home will be to lay some underground electrical cable from the garage to the main house, in order to improve safety, and in readiness for mains electricity which we hope may arrive eventually in Kabulamema.



2018 DVD

A DVD of last year's visit, 'Changes and Challenges', is now available. Please let us know if you would like a complimentary copy.

Food Donations

Simon recently requested an extra quantity of food parcels, and we have therefore sent out all of the food we have in storage. If you are able to donate any extra food for us to send, it would be most gratefully received. The items we particularly need are:

- Dried food - rice, pasta, porridge oats, Weetabix, packet soup (not tinned)
- Tinned food - meat, fish, baked beans (ideally with a ring-pull lid)
- Baby food - milk powder, baby porridge, rusks (no food in jars or pouches)

Thank you!

Visits

Neil Starling regularly gives presentations about the Falconer Home and the work of the Trust. If you would like him to visit your church, midweek group, school or other meeting, please get in touch.



Washing clothes at the bore hole

Fundraising



We are so grateful for all those who donate to the Falconer Trust, whether through personal giving, through their church, or through fundraising events. Some such events that have taken place recently include:

- Last October Megan from Manchester ran the Cardiff half-marathon, raising £450 for the Falconer Trust.
- Last summer Anne in Hertfordshire held a 'Bacon Butty Day' in her local village, raising around £300. This year she is hosting a 'Doughnut Day'.

- In March a local choir held a concert in Watton raising over £300.

Are you able to hold a fundraising event in your locality? There are lots of ideas and resources (poster templates etc.) on our website. Just go to www.thefalconertrust.org and click on 'How Can I Help?'.

Please Pray...

- ... for Simon, who continues to have health concerns, particularly with repeated bouts of malaria.
- ... for the continuing work on the kitchens and other improvement projects.
- ... for those who will be travelling out to the Home in July, please pray for safe and uneventful travel, and a fruitful time while at the Home.
- ... for the children and young people, that they may continue to thrive and stay healthy.
- ... for all those involved in the work of the Trust, and for continued provision of finance and goods, so that we can be as effective as possible in supporting the Home.

Thank You

A very big thank you to all who have supported the work in some way, whether through prayer, finance, donation of goods or any other way. May God bless you richly for your efforts on behalf of the children.



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Registered Charity No. 280864

